

Tragedies like Michael Brown, Eric Garner, and Oscar Grant—one of my constituents—are far too common in communities across this country.

As the mother of two black men and two black grandsons, I have had many uncomfortable but necessary conversations about how to walk, how to talk and how to interact with police.

This is not just my reality. It is also the reality of millions of other black mothers and grandmothers.

Tonight, we stand here, once again, to discuss the ongoing failures of our criminal justice system and over-use of deadly force by law enforcement across the country.

In order to address the problem people need to know the facts.

I applaud President Obama's Task Force on 21st Century Policing.

The Task Force provided much needed recommendations, such as the creation of a National Crime and Justice Task Force that will review all components of the criminal justice system and provide recommendations on comprehensive criminal justice reform as well as renewed focus on community policing.

The unfortunate facts are since President Obama's Task Force on 21st Century Policing released its report; there have been more than 100 fatal police shootings in America.

Every 28 hours an African American male is killed by a security officer.

1 in 3 African American men and 1 in 6 Latino men will spend some part of their lives in prison.

The truth is that disparity and inequality continue at every level of our society, especially in our criminal justice system.

It's past time that Congress start enacting policies to dismantle the bias endemic in our institutions.

We must come together like never before to tackle the systemic, structural and rampant racial bias endemic in our institutions and criminal justice system.

We need to empower communities and work to build greater trust between law enforcement and the community, especially communities of color.

That is why Congress should pass the bipartisan Stop Militarizing Law Enforcement Act (H.R. 1232), which I am a proud cosponsor of, to stop the militarization of our nation's police forces.

We need to pass the Police Accountability Act (H.R. 1102) and the Grand Jury Reform Act (H.R. 429) so we can ensure that deadly force cases are heard by a judge and there is more accountability among police officers.

Congress should also work to pass the Shield Our Streets Act (H.R. 103) to increase investments in proven, community-orientated policing programs that reduce crime and increase community and law enforcement trust and understanding.

Congress must work with the Department of Justice to ensure training programs are available to ALL law enforcement officials to reduce racial bias and profiling and provide law enforcement officers with the resources to address, defuse and manage situations without the unnecessary use of deadly force.

We also must support funding programs that focus on increasing police force diversity and retention of qualified officers in communities. This is something that the President's Task Force recommended in its report.

It is vital that Congress acts to ensure the tragedies in Ferguson, Staten Island, Oakland—in my district—and now North Charleston are not repeated.

So I urge my colleagues to support these efforts that can end the structural injustice that is endemic in our criminal justice system.

These events must be our call to action—as Dr. King reminded us in his "Two Americas" speech in 1967.

He said: 'We must come to see that social progress never rolls in on the wheels of inevitability. It comes through the tireless efforts and the persistent work of dedicated individuals.'

We must, each of us, be those dedicated individuals working persistently for the social progress that is so greatly needed.

Too much is at stake to do nothing—we must act and act now.

HONORING VICKI SAPORTA

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring Vicki Saporta for 20 years of outstanding leadership and service as President and CEO of the National Abortion Federation (NAF).

As the first woman organizing director for an international union and now as a visionary leader in the reproductive health, rights, and justice movement, Vicki Saporta has spent her career fighting for women's equality and to improve women's lives. Since taking the helm of NAF in 1995, President Saporta has worked tirelessly to ensure women's access to safe, legal abortion care.

Recognizing the need to address violence against abortion providers, Saporta successfully advocated for the establishment of the Department of Justice's National Task Force on Violence Against Health Care Providers. She has actively worked with Attorney General Janet Reno and Eric Holder; the Department of Justice; Federal Bureau of Investigation, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, and U.S. Marshals to improve law enforcement response to clinic violence. As a result, major incidences of violence against abortion providers have decreased significantly in recent years.

Saporta has brought abortion providers and their patients into the forefront of the public debate about abortion. In 1996, she brought five women and their families to the Oval Office to meet with President Clinton, who publicly announced that he vetoed a federal abortion ban because he was so moved by their stories. More recently, she worked closely with Congress to build support for lifting a decades-long ban on federal funding for abortion care for servicemembers and their dependents in cases of rape and incest—one of the only pro-choice legislative victories in the last 40 years.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring President and CEO Vicki Saporta for her outstanding service to reproductive health. Her legacy continues to offer a powerful example for serving our communities.

MARCUS LOPEZ

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Marcus Lopez for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Marcus Lopez is a 12th grader at Wheat Ridge High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Marcus Lopez is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Marcus Lopez for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

IN HONOR OF THE UNVEILING OF THE DACHAU VICTIMS MEMORIAL AT THE DURHAM HEBREW CEMETERY IN DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the unveiling of a very special memorial in my congressional district in Durham, North Carolina. On Sunday, April 26, 2015, a memorial forever marking the final resting place of ashes from victims who lost their lives during the Holocaust at the Dachau Concentration Camp in Germany will be unveiled in the Durham Hebrew Cemetery.

The amazing and unlikely journey that brought these hallowed ashes to their final resting place in Durham, North Carolina took over seventy years.

David Walter Corsbie, Jr. served in the United States Army Air Corps with the 364th Fighter Squadron during World War II. In 1945, shortly after Dachau was liberated by American troops, Mr. Corsbie was sent there on assignment. It was there that a survivor who had been imprisoned at Dachau gave the ashes to Mr. Corsbie telling him to never forget the unspeakable horrors that occurred there.

In late 2012, Mr. Corsbie's son Joseph made the existence of these ashes known after they had remained a secret since the end of World War II. Last year, those ashes were finally laid to rest in the Durham Hebrew Cemetery. The victims whose ashes were interred were finally given the honor and respect they were denied so long ago. A memorial to mark their final resting place will be unveiled this Sunday. This memorial will serve as an enduring reminder that will ensure the victims at Dachau and the millions of others that were lost during the Holocaust are never forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me both in commemorating the unveiling of this

truly special memorial and in solemn remembrance of the millions of lives lost in the concentration camps of World War II.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. MARK JOHNSON

HON. TAMMY DUCKWORTH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Ms. DUCKWORTH. Mr. Speaker, today I rise with sorrow and a heavy heart in recognition of Mr. Mark Johnson, a former DuPage High School District 88 Board of Education Member and constituent of mine. Mark was diagnosed with bone cancer this past spring and passed away on December 13, 2014.

Mark did everything with a sense of commitment and dedication. His contributions and character have greatly impacted our community, and his legacy will not only live on in the School District, but also in the hearts of those who knew him.

Mark served on the District 88 Board of Education since 1999 and was President from 2003–2011. He graduated from Willowbrook High School in 1966 and received the school's Distinguished Alumni Award in 2012. Through being a District 88 graduate and Board member, a D.A.R.E. officer and a Villa Park Police Department employee, Mark was involved in the communities of District 88 for more than 50 years.

Thank you Mark for all that you have done for DuPage County, you will be sorely missed.

KYLE PAPPAS-ADAMSON

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Kyle Pappas-Adamson for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Kyle Pappas-Adamson is a 12th grader at Arvada West High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Kyle Pappas-Adamson is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Kyle Pappas-Adamson for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

JOB CORPS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Job Corps on the occasion of its fiftieth anniversary.

Five decades ago, President Lyndon Johnson stood before Congress and challenged us to end poverty in the United States. Job Corps is a critical part of the answer to that challenge. Since 1965, the program has helped level the playing field for more than two million disadvantaged young men and women through its 125 centers across 48 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

Young people come to Job Corps unsure about their future and often in need of a second chance. When they graduate, they are ready to take on the challenges and opportunities of the adult world. Put simply, Job Corps changes lives for the better.

Job Corps is not like other career preparation programs. It does not just train and educate its participants. It instills in them discipline, structure, and the social skills they need to be successful in their lives.

I had the honor of taking part in the opening of Connecticut's very first Job Corps center in New Haven in 1996. A year later, I returned to serve as graduation speaker. I was amazed at how far the students had come.

Today, the New Haven Job Corps center is among the best in the nation. Armed with the right skills, its alumni pursue careers everywhere from Yale-New Haven Hospital to the Department of Homeland Security.

Job Corps successfully places more than three quarters of its graduates in higher education programs or careers. Thanks to this track record of achievement, our nation now has many more skilled young people ready for careers as emergency medical technicians, chefs, nurses, carpenters, entrepreneurs, and all kinds of other vocations.

No investment is more critical than investment in our human capital. If we want to compete in the global economy, we must invest in the workers of tomorrow and give them the skills they need to succeed. For half a century, Job Corps has been doing just that.

I could not be more proud of the role I have played, as Chair and Ranking Member of the Appropriations Subcommittee that funds Job Corps, in supporting the program. I congratulate Job Corps, its staff, and its many graduates on fifty years of success.

HONORING BOB RULEY

HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Bob Ruley, a dedicated service member, loving family man, and proud New Mexican.

Growing up in Encino, New Mexico, Bob learned the importance of hard work, shared responsibility and a commitment to his family and country. When Bob was 8 years old, his mother passed away and the siblings were expected to step up and support the family. Every morning at 8:00 a.m., Bob and his brother would wake up, strap on their boots, and prep his family's 110 cattle for the all-day excursion across town.

As Bob got older, World War II intensified in Europe, and on February 7, 1941 in El Paso, Texas, Bob made a decision that would change his life. At the age of 18, in front of a

tiny kiosk amid the bustling Alligator Square crowd, Bob enlisted into the United States Army's Eighth Cavalry Regiment, First Cavalry Division.

In total, Bob spent over 4 years in service to the United States in what was a remarkable career. As a Cavalryman, Bob conducted strategic maneuvers on the Louisiana and Texas borders with his horse Stony (Army Number 5U27) to protect against any German attacks that could originate in Mexico.

On December 2, 1942, Bob began training and prepared for deployment to the Philippines. As an Infantryman he completed two beachheads in the Pacific theatre. The first was January, 1944 at Manus Island, Philippines, with instructions to take the Lorengau airstrip. Bob's unit, the Eighth Cavalry Regiment, landed at Lugos Mission and led the charge for the U.S. forces. Bob explained, "Anytime you were a lead guy, you got hit". That didn't stop Bob or the Eighth Cavalry Regiment from pushing forward and repelling the enemy. At the end of the battle, U.S. forces successfully drove the Japanese from the island. Bob later earned a Purple Heart for his injuries sustained during the conflict.

The second beachhead was October, 1944 at the Battle of Leyte Gulf, in what became known as one of the most decisive battles of the war. Bob recalled the heroism of the troops, and in particular, two local Filipino men who spent all night paddling 185 men up and down the river. The battle was so influential that President Truman announced a Presidential citation for the skill, bravery, and courage that U.S. forces displayed in the victory.

On September 12, 1945, Bob returned home and began looking for work. Employment prospects were slim and, for Bob, that meant taking odd jobs to make a living. Whether he was delivering flowers, passing out court summons, or covering the night shift at a meat factory for an overworked employee, Bob always did what was needed to provide for his family. He eventually landed a full time job at the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway Company in Las Vegas, New Mexico, where he would spend the next 38 years as a Conductor and Brakeman.

Bob's story reminds us of a generation of Americans who, with hard work, persistence and determination, resolved to build a better America—a generation that constructed our modern concept of the "American Dream" and safeguarded the freedoms that we enjoy today. I have known Bob my whole adult life and am fortunate to have felt his exuberant joy and generous heart over the years. He could always be found at the local Denny's, walking along the perimeter of the University of New Mexico's North golf course, at his favorite restaurant, Hurricane's, in downtown Albuquerque, or spending time with his family that he cherished deeply.

From his childhood efforts to support his family, to risking his life overseas to preserve the liberties of millions of Americans, to fighting to create a richer life for his children, Bob represents the very best of our country. Bob's enduring legacy of service, sacrifice and unwavering faith in our community, state, and country will remain a lasting inspiration for future generations.